

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2 (Cancelled)

3. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting cancer in a patient according to claim 1 wherein the levels of endoglycan are determined.

4. (Withdrawn) A method of detecting cancer in a patient according to claim 1 comprising:

(a) determining the level of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and

(b) comparing the ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin in the sample to a control sample, wherein a decreased ratio as compared to the control indicates that the patient has cancer.

5-9 (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) A method of monitoring the progression of cancer in a patient comprising:

(a) determining the level of podocalyxin ~~and/or endoglycan~~ in a sample from the patient;

(b) repeating step (a) at a later point in time and comparing the result of step (a) with the result of step (b) wherein a difference in the level of podocalyxin ~~and/or endoglycan~~ is indicative of the progression of the cancer in the patient.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of monitoring the progression of cancer in a patient according to claim 10 comprising:

- (a) determining the level of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and
- (b) repeating step (a) at a later point in time and comparing the result of step (a) with the result of step (b) wherein a difference in the ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin is indicative of the progression of the cancer in the patient.

12. (Currently amended) A method of determining whether or not a cancer is metastatic or at risk of metastasis in a patient comprising:

- (a) detecting the level of podocalyxin ~~and/or endoglycan~~ in a sample from the patient; and
- (b) comparing the level of podocalyxin ~~and/or decreased levels of endoglycan~~ in the sample to a control sample, wherein an increased level of podocalyxin ~~and/or decreased levels of endoglycan~~ as compared to the control indicates that the cancer is metastatic or at risk of metastasis.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of determining whether or not a cancer is metastatic according to claim 12 in a patient comprising:

- (a) detecting the level of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and
- (b) comparing the ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin in the sample to a control sample, wherein a decreased ratio of endoglycan to podocalyxin as compared to the control indicates that the cancer is metastatic.

14. (Withdrawn) A kit for detecting cancer in a patient comprising (i) reagents for conducting a method according to any one of claims 1-13 and (ii) instructions for its use.

15. (Withdrawn) A kit according to claim 14 wherein the reagents comprise nucleic acid primers for amplifying mRNA coding for at least one of endoglycan and podocalyxin in a reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction.

16. (Withdrawn) A kit according to claim 14 wherein the reagents comprise antibodies specific to at least one of endoglycan protein and podocalyxin protein.

17. (Withdrawn) A use of an effective amount of an agent that modulates podocalyxin or endoglycan in the manufacture of a medicament for modulating cancer cell growth.

18. (Withdrawn) A use of an effective amount of podocalyxin antagonist in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting cancer cell growth or treating cancer.

19. (Withdrawn) A use according to claim 18 wherein the podocalyxin antagonist is an antisense oligonucleotide.

20. (Withdrawn) A use according to claim 18 wherein the podocalyxin antagonist is an antibody that binds podocalyxin.

21. (Withdrawn) A use of an effective amount of endoglycan agonist in the manufacture of a medicament for inhibiting cancer cell growth or treating cancer.

22. (Withdrawn) A use according to claim 21 wherein the endoglycan agonist is a nucleic acid encoding endoglycan or a fragment thereof.

23. (Withdrawn) A use according to anyone of claims 17-22 wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a compound that modulates podocalyxin comprising:

(a) incubating a test compound with podocalyxin or a nucleic acid encoding podocalyxin; and

(b) determining the effect of the compound on podocalyxin activity or expression and comparing with a control, wherein a change in the podocalyxin activity or expression as compared to the control indicates that the test compound modulates podocalyxin.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a compound that modulates endoglycan comprising:

(a) incubating a test compound with endoglycan or a nucleic acid encoding endoglycan; and

(b) determining the effect of the compound on endoglycan activity or expression and comparing with a control, wherein a change in the endoglycan activity or expression as compared to the control indicates that the test compound modulates endoglycan.

26. (Withdrawn) A screening assay for identifying an antagonist of podocalyxin comprising the steps of:

(a) incubating a test substance with podocalyxin; and

(b) determining whether or not the test substance inhibits podocalyxin activity, function or expression levels.

27. (Withdrawn) A screening assay for identifying an agonist of endoglycan comprising the steps of:

(a) incubating a test substance with endoglycan; and

(b) determining whether or not the test substance activates endoglycan activity, function or expression levels.

28. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for use in modulating cancer cell growth comprising an effective amount of a podocalyxin modulator in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

29. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for use in treating cancer comprising an effective amount of a podocalyxin antagonist in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

30. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for use in modulating cancer cell growth comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan modulator in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

31. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for use in treating cancer comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan agonist in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

32. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for use in modulating cancer cell growth comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan modulator and a podocalyxin modulator in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

33. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for use in treating cancer comprising an effective amount of an endoglycan agonist and a podocalyxin antagonist in admixture with a suitable diluent or carrier.

34. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10 or 12 wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

35. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10, 12 or 34 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of nucleic acid molecules.

36. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 35 wherein the nucleic acid molecules are mRNA.

37. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10, 12 or 34 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of protein.

38. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 37 wherein an antibody is used to determine the levels of the protein.

39. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the patient is undergoing treatment and an increase in podocalyxin is indicative that the treatment is not effective.

40. (New) A method of predicting the prognosis of a cancer patient comprising:
(a) detecting the level of podocalyxin in a sample from the patient; and
(b) comparing the level of podocalyxin in the sample to a control sample, wherein an increased level of podocalyxin as compared to the control indicates a poor prognosis.

41. (New) A method according to claim 40 wherein the cancer is breast cancer.

42. (New) A method according to claim 40 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of nucleic acid molecules.

43. (New) A method according to claim 42 wherein the nucleic acid molecules are mRNA.

44. (New) A method according to claim 40 wherein determining the level in step (a) comprises determining the amount of protein.

45. (New) A method according to claim 44 wherein an antibody is used to determine the levels of the protein.